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CRITICIZES LACK OF PLANNING, ACTION
IN FOREST AND RESERVOIR WORK

Many problems have arisen in the course of the work being done in the Ukraine on protective reforestation and reclamation of sandy lands. Sanitation units are responsible for the solution of these problems. The construction and exploitation of reservoirs must be constantly controlled by sanitation organizations.

Kolkhoz workers of Kiev Oblast, competing with Chernigov workers, have resolved to build 652 reservoirs instead of the 250 called for by the plan. However, some reservoirs were made too shallow in the attempt to increase the tempo of the work. The oblast malaria station has mapped all the water resources of the oblast. This station approves designs for reservoirs and enforces compulsory planting of willows along the shores of reservoirs.

In Sidora village, Veliki-Polovetsk Rayon, workers planned to build a reservoir only one meter deep to cover an area of 30 hectares. This resulted in a protest by the malaria station representative who demanded that the depth be not less than 2.5 meters.

In Ovidiopol Rayon, Odessa Oblast, it was suggested that a large reservoir be built using a natural drainage system. The task seemed simple, and the work was begun without any design. The oblast malaria station found errors resulting from the lack of precise hydrological calculations. The natural flow of water was not equal to that lost from evaporation and filtration, and the reservoir would have been transformed into a damp breeding spot for the anopheles. The station made the necessary corrections in design.

Due to the intervention of sanitation workers, the structural design of a large interkolkhoz reservoir covering 650 hectares on the Sura River in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast was changed considerably. The Zaporozh'ye and Khar'kov oblast malaria stations are also very active in checking construction work.

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Unfortunately, certain scientific research institutes stand aloof from the realization of the great plan. The Ukrainian Institute of Malaria and Medical Parasitology (director, Biryukov, assistant in scientific section, Professor Moldavskaya) occupies a purely contemplative position. The institute has not become a scientific-methodological center in the fight against malaria but is detached from its base, the malaria station. Other instructions in hydrotechnology are not geared to present-day construction. New instructions have been written but have not yet been published and are unknown in many localities.

Boldyrev, Vice-Minister of Public Health and chief state sanitation inspector of the USSR, ordered that all sanitation institutes, including institutes of epidemiology and microbiology, work out special measures connected with fulfillment of the plan for reforestation and construction of ponds and reservoirs. D'yachenko, department head of the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology of the Ministry of Health, Ukrainian SSR, was requested to outline his plans and instructions. He asked "What business is it of ours?"

In the laboratory of psychohygienic and physiological studies, Candidate of Medical Sciences Izdebskiy and Dr Kostovetskiy have been working jointly on the subject, "The Influence of Green Plantings Upon the Microclimate of Populated Points." But this work is to continue for about 2 years. Couldn't the institute give scientific consultations to workers which would help them in creating conditions favorable to the health of the population which carrying on protracted scientific investigations?

Egidis, institute co-worker, is working on the very important subject of the influence of reservoirs on microclimate. For a long time he has been studying the problem of the optimal distance between reservoirs. Meanwhile, the number of reservoirs increases and increases.

Kalyuzhnyy, vice-director of the institute in the scientific section, makes it clear that the institute can only make efficient recommendations after the scientific works are completed. We fear that the works of the Institute on utilization of forests and reservoirs will be of now practical value when completed. -- Ya. Brik, Kiev correspondent, Meditsinskiy Rabotnik.

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